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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

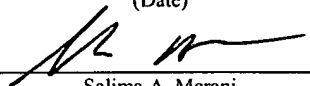
Applicant : Lambrecht et al.
App. No : 10/742,156
Filed : December 19, 2003
For : MINIMALLY INVASIVE SYSTEM FOR
MANIPULATING INTERVERTEBRAL
DISC TISSUE
Examiner : Unknown
Art Unit : 3738

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

December 9, 2004

(Date)


Salima A. Merani
Recognized under 37 CFR § 11.9(b)

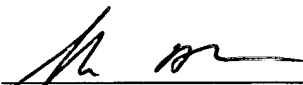
Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 equivalent listing references for consideration:
- (X) Listing 5 references.
 - (X) Enclosing 5 references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.


Salima A. Merani, Ph.D.
Attorney at Law
Recognized under 37 CFR § 11.9(b)
For Attorney of Record,
Gerard von Hoffmann (Registration No. 33,043)
and all other registrants of the law firm of
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14th Floor
Irvine, CA 92614
(949) 760-0404

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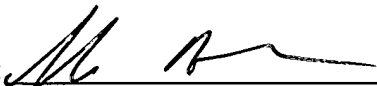
Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (PTO/SB/08 equivalent) listing 5 references to be considered by the Examiner. Also enclosed are copies of the references listed. Identification herein is not an admission that any of the foregoing are prior art to the above captioned application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required. If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: December 9, 2004

By: 
Salima A. Merani
Recognized under 37 CFR § 11.9(b)
For Attorney of Record,
Gerard von Hoffmann (Registration No. 33,043)
and all other registrants of the law firm of
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Customer No. 20,995
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Application No. 10/742,156
Filing Date December 19, 2003
First Named Inventor Lambrecht et al.
Art Unit 3738
Examiner Unknown
Attorney Docket No. INTRIN.1CP4DV1

SHEET 1 OF 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known) Example: 1,234,567 B1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	5,100,422	03/31/1992	Berguer et al.	
	2	6,132,465	10/17/2000	Ray et al.	
	3	6,190,353	02/2001	Makower et al.	
	4	6,264,695	07/24/2001	Stoy	
	5	2004/0002764A1	01/01/2004	Gainor et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number-Kind Code Example: JP 1234567 A1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ¹

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ¹

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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

T¹ - Place a check mark in this area when an English language Translation is attached.